

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-13, and 15-17 are being currently amended. Claims 18-20 are being canceled. Therefore, after entry of this Amendment, Claims 1-17 are pending and under consideration. The amendments and rejections of the Claims are addressed in detail below.

The Amendments of the Claims:

Claims 1-2, 4-13, and 15-17 are amended to correct informalities. In particular, Claim 1 is amended to replace "liquid-crystalline" with "liquid crystal". Claim 2 is amended to delete the term "holder" from the phrase "substrate holder." Claim 4 is amended to delete the term "forming" from the phrase "forming film." Claim 10 is amended to replace "aligning action" with "orienting action." Claims 11 and 13 are amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 15-16 are amended to replace the term "device" with "means." Claim 17 is amended to replace "it" with "the device." Claims 4-10, 12-13 and 17 are amended to correct the grammatical inaccuracy in the preamble of the Claims. No new matter is introduced by the amendment of the informalities in the Claims.

Oath or Declaration:

A new declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) is submitted with this Amendment. The citizenship of each of the inventors and the application number and filing date are correctly identified in the new declaration.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112:

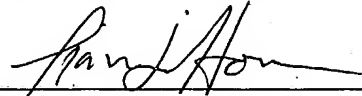
Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which application regards as the invention.

The Claims have been amended as identified above. Reconsideration of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. An early indication of the same is therefore respectfully requested. If any matters can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional required fees, or credit any overpayment, to Dorsey & Whitney LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. A-71213/AJT/TJH (463031-46)).

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Respectfully submitted,



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